taken steps to check these irregularities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the frauds in import-invoicing noticed by the Government during the current year so far; and

(e) the action taken against the guilty traders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). A critical scruitiny of the value of imported goods by assessing officers is conducted at the time of assessment. Besides, specialised agencies such as Special Intelligence and Investigation Branches and Special valuation cells within the Customs House, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and the Enforcement Directorate collect intelligence/ information regarding under-invoicing and investigate such cases.

(d) and (e). Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Rise in Prices of Polyester Yarn

6080. SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in last six months there was a spurt in the prices of polyester yarn;

(b) if so, the prices of polyester yarn in the beginning f financial year 1991-92 and the prices prevailing in the month of December, 1991,

(c) whether the Government have found out the reasons for rise in prices of these yarn; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise is view of (a) above.

Production of Cotton

6081. SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Textile Exports may Nosedive: Millowners" appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dt. January 16, 1992;

(b) if so, whether there is heavy fall in the production of cotton yarn during the yeàr 1991-92;

(c) the reasons for the decline in production;

(d) the estimated production of cotton yarn during the current year;

(e) whether the production of cloth is also likely to fall due to this reason;

(f) if so, the estimated production of cloth after this fall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Estimated production of cotton yarn during the current year is 1490 million kgs. in the year 1991-92.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Realisation of Excise Duty in Maharashtra

6082. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of excise duty realised during 1990-91 and 1991-92 in Maharashtra;

(b) the targets fixed in this regard;

(c) the amount outstanding so far; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for its realisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) As per departmental records, the revenue realised from excise duty (exclusive of cesses not administered by the Department of Revenue) from the collectorates falling in Maharashtra during 1990-91 and April, 1991-February, 1992 are estimated to be Rs. 7205.56 crores and Rs.7106.11 crores respectively.

(b) State-wise targets are not fixed.

(c) and (d). In view of (b) above, do not arise.

[*English*]

Smuggling of Polyster Yarn at Indo-Pak border

6083. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :
SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale smuggling of polyster yarn across the Indo-Pak border;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof during the last two years, till date; and

(c) the steps taken to curb such activities?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Available intelligence and seizure reports do not indicate large scale smuggling of polyester yarn across the Indo-Pak border.

(b) The details of synthetic fibres and yarns, including polyester yarn, seized across Indo-Pak border are as under:

Year	*Value of synthetic fibres & yarn seized*
1990	Rs. 9 lakhs
1991	Rs. 23.66 lakhs
1992* (upto February)	Rs. 1,800/-

*Provisional

(c) Indo-Pak border continues to be sensitive to smuggling. In order to combat such smuggling, anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the Customs presence has been intensified and the Customs presence has been reinforced recently by the creation of two Sub-Collectorates exclusively for anti-smuggling work with Headquarters at Amritsar and Jodhpur in the Punjab and Rajasthan sectors respectively. More than 60% of the border in the Punjab sector has been fenced with barbed wire and charged with high voltage electric current in order to restrict any border crossing. During the night